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ABSTRACT

Much of the heritage of the United States has been preserved in folk music and folklore. The recordings presented in this list have been instrumental in preserving this heritage and serve as valuable resources for students, teachers, and libraries. These recordings were selected by a panel of experts in the fields of folklore and ethnomusicology. Criteria for the selections were: (1) the recording was released in 1986; (2) the recording featured cultural traditions found in the United States; (3) the recording emphasized "root traditions"; (4) the recording was available to U.S. purchasers; and (5) the recording was well annotated with liner notes or accompanying booklets for classroom use. Each of the recordings is described. Representative selections include the fields of country, western, gospel, folk ballads, string-bands, bluegrass, and ethnic music. A list of the publishing companies is included. (SM)

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AMERICAN FOLK MUSIC AND FOLKLORE RECORDINGS 1986 A SELECTED LIST

Selection Panel

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Library of Congress
Washington, D.C. 20540

1987

INTRODUCTION

Since 1928 the Archive of Folk Culture at the Library of Congress has been helping to preserve America's cultural heritage by collecting sound recordings of folk music and folklore. In addition, over the last four decades the Library has released a series of LPs which provide highlights from the Archive's holdings. Since 1983 the Library's American Folklife Center has published *A Selected List* in order to help promote the best recordings of American folk music and folklore issued by various companies and organizations the previous year.

Small companies and organizations produce the bulk of traditional music on recordings. Such recordings elude the regular distribution networks and seldom appear in record shops and catalogs. The recordings released by these companies have been instrumental in preserving our folk heritage and encouraging those performers who are active in folk communities. For this reason, these recordings are valuable resources for students, teachers, and libraries. We hope with the publication of *A Selected List* to foster an increased awareness of such recordings.

Each year a panel of experts active in the fields of folklore and ethnomusicology meets to select a group of outstanding recordings from the approximately two hundred records and tapes submitted for consideration by producers and manufacturers or suggested by various folklorists, ethnomusicologists, and the Center staff. The list is not comprehensive but is intended to make important recent sound recordings more readily available to libraries, educators, and others. To be eligible for consideration a recording must:

- be released in 1986,
- feature cultural traditions found within the United States,
- emphasize “root traditions” over popular adaptations of traditional materials,
- be conveniently available to American purchasers,
- be well annotated with liner notes or accompanying booklets relating the recordings to the performers, their communities, genres, styles, or other pertinent information.

The American Folklife Center hopes that the continuing publication of this list will encourage the production of new high-quality documentary folk recordings, which in turn will help those performers who preserve our country's rich folk heritage. We also hope that the list will stimulate record companies to include sufficient documentation with each recording so it can stand on its own merits as an educational tool. The increase in the quality of recordings submitted for consideration makes us believe that progress is being made towards this goal.

The recordings in the following annotated listings are produced by the companies and organizations listed at the rear of the booklet. None of the recordings listed is manufactured, distributed, or offered for sale by the Library of Congress. The booklet also lists other publications that review folk music and folklore recordings, and major mail-order distributors of folk recordings. We have included Library of Congress catalog card numbers for the convenience of librarians; they should not be used when ordering these recordings from the applicable company.

To suggest suitable 1987 recordings for next year's panel or to receive additional copies of the list please write to: *Selected List*, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

AFRO-AMERICAN

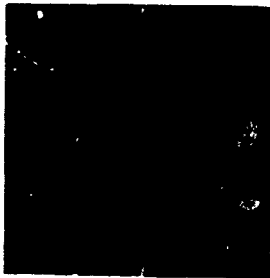
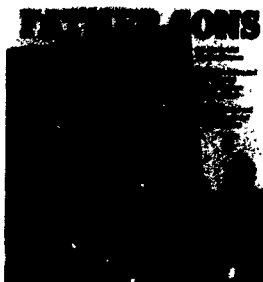


A Cappella Gospel Singing. Folklyric 9045 LP/Arhoolie cassette C-223 *A cappella* (without instruments, gospel groups recorded primarily in the South 1936-1952) Vocal harmonies in the quartet style Edited and compiled by Chris Strachwitz from 78-rpm discs Jacket notes on the performers by Ray Funk LCCN 87-743044

The Golden Age of Gospel Singing. Folklyric 9046 LP/Arhoolie cassette C-223 Quartet-style gospel groups with instrumental accompaniment A mixture of male and female quartets Recorded in the 1940s and 1950s Includes some topical material Edited and compiled by Chris Strachwitz Jacket notes on the performers by Ray Funk LCCN 87-743045



Fathers and Sons. Spirit Feel SF 1001 LP Male quartet-style gospel groups recorded 1930-1956 Features performances by the Soul Stirrers, The Five Blind Boys of Mississippi, and the Sensational Nightingales Vocals with accompaniment Jacket notes by Anthony Heilbut Remastering by Nick Perls LCCN 87-743052.

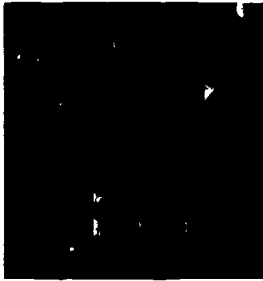


Skip James: The Complete 1931 Session. Yazoo 1072 LP Historic recordings of Mississippi bluesman Nehemiah Curtis James (1902-1969) from a 1931 recording session for Paramount Records in Grafton, Wisconsin James was an important figure in Delta blues Performed on both guitar and piano Jacket notes by Steve Calt LCCN 87-743058

Freddy King: Just Pickin'. Modern Blues Recordings MB2LP-721 2 LPs in one sleeve Reissues of two LPs from 1961 and 1965 of blues guitar instrumentals from the King label of Memphis, Tennessee featuring Texas bluesman Freddy King (1934-1976) Twenty-four pieces performed on electric guitar with a band, includes the 1961 hit song "Hideaway" Influential on later rock and blues guitarists Digitally remastered, coordinated by and extensive jacket notes written by Daniel Jacobovitch LCCN 86-743238



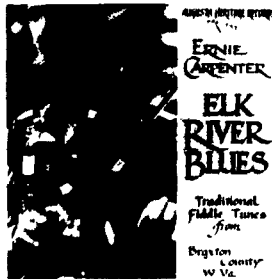
ANGLO-AMERICAN



It's Just the Same Today: The Barnicle-Cadle Field Recordings From Eastern Tennessee and Kentucky, 1938-1949.

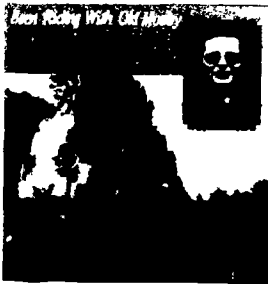
Tennessee Folklore Society TFS-108 LP Recently re-discovered field recordings of Anglo-American ballads and dance tunes made by Mary Elizabeth Barnicle (1898-1979) and Tillman Cadle (1902-) Some of the ballads are unaccompanied Performers include Sara Ogan Gunning, Tillman Cadle, Sam and Charley Green, Jack Johnson, and others Produced and annotated by Willie Smyth Includes an eleven-page booklet and jacket notes describing the performers and the songs, a suggested reading list, and photographs LCCN 87-743055

Ernie Carpenter: Elk River Blues; Traditional Fiddle Tunes From Braxton County, West Virginia Augusta Heritage Records AHR 003 LP Recordings of old-time fiddler Ernest Carpenter of Sutton, West Virginia made 1981-present Carpenter comes from four generations of West Virginia fiddlers Instrumental fiddle tunes accompanied on guitar and banjo Researched and produced for the Home Place Project at the Augusta Heritage Center, Elkins, West Virginia by Gerry Milnes and Michael Kline Includes jacket notes describing the sources of the songs, and a twelve-page descriptive booklet compiled by Milnes and Kline entitled *Ernie Carpenter Tales of the Elk River Country*, which tells of life on the river for many generations Photos and biographical information LCCN 87-743040



Tommy Jarrell, Rainbow Sign, County 791 LP 1984 recordings of the renowned North Carolina fiddler Thomas Jefferson Jarrell (1901-1985), who has influenced many younger musicians These are some of Jarrell's last recordings Vocals and fiddle with accompaniment by Andy Cahan on banjo, Alice Gerrard on guitar, and Verlen Clifton on mandolin Brief jacket notes Cahan, Clifton and Gerrard LCCN 87-743043





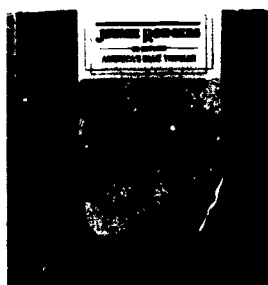
Frank Bode: Been Riding with Old Mosby. Folkways FTS 31109 LP Anglo-American ballads performed with guitar accompaniment by singer Frank Bode (1939-) of Toast, North Carolina. Recorded in September 1984 by Eric Davidson and Ellen Victoria. Features accompaniment on some selections by Tommy Jarrell on fiddle and Paul Brown on banjo. Includes a six-page pamphlet with biographical information, song lyrics, and descriptions of the songs annotated by Victoria and Davidson. LCCN 87-743046

Ridin' in an Old Model T: Toddles, Wobbles, Rags, and Blues. County 548 LP Historic commercial recordings of string-band instrumentals by various groups recorded in the South during the 1930s. Contains examples of different forms of string-band tunes from the rag to the wobble. Taken from 78-rpm discs, these recordings document string bands from underrepresented areas of the South. Produced by David Freeman with jacket notes on the songs and performers by Charles Wolfe. LCCN 87-743042

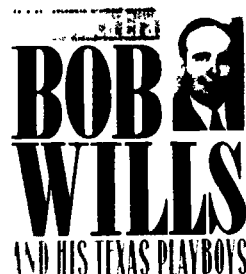
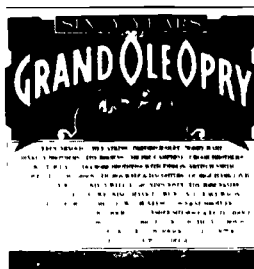


Ernest V. Stoneman: "With Family and Friends"—Volumes 1 and 2. Old Homestead OCHS 172/ OCHS 173 LPs. Two volumes of historic recordings (1926-1934) by Virginia-born singer Ernest V. "Pop" Stoneman (1893-1968) and his family. First recorded in 1924, Stoneman was an important figure in early country music. A mixture of string-band music, ballads with guitar and harmonica, and sacred songs. Many of the songs were written in the late nineteenth century. Also includes topical songs of the day. Jacket notes on both volumes by Ivan Tribe. LCCN 87-743050

Jimie Rodgers On Record: America's Blue Yodeler. Smithsonian Collection of Recordings R 034 Two-LP set Classic recordings of James Charles "Jimie" Rodgers (1897-1933), the "Father of Country Music." A representative collection of songs from Rodgers' brief career. Recordings are arranged chronologically and include performances less frequently reissued. Contains his first recordings from Bristol, Tennessee in 1927 and his last made shortly before he died of tuberculosis in New York in 1933. Included are most of his famous "blue yodels." Selected and annotated by Nolan Porterfield, the biographer of Rodgers, with biographical information and description of the songs in a 24-page booklet. LCCN 87-743052

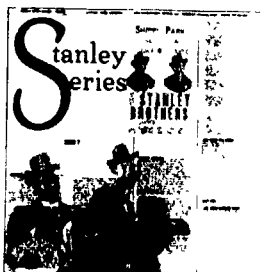


Sixty Years of the Grand Old Opry. RCA CPI 2 9507 Two-LP set/cassette A representative tribute to the Grand Old Opry (1926-), the longest running country radio program. Includes performances by 42 of the best-known participants during the Opry's sixty-year history. Organized chronologically from the 1928 recording of Paul Warmack and the Gully Jumpers to a 1985 recording of Ronnie Milsap. Many appear for the first time on L.P., and two have never been released in any form. Produced by the Country Music Foundation. Extensive jacket notes on the Opry and the featured songs by Charles Wolfe. LCCN 87-743051



Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys: The Golden Era. Columbia C2 40149 Two-LP set/cassette Historic recordings of James Robert Wills (1904-1975), the "King of Western Swing," and his Texas Playboys. Taken from original 78-rpm discs 1935-1946. Wills' dance orchestra was the most popular in Texas and Oklahoma during this period. Much of the material features the group's popular vocalist Tommy Duncan. Extensive jacket notes with biographical information by Bob Pinson of the Country Music Foundation. photos. LCCN 87-743041

The Stanley Brothers:
Stanley Series Volume 2,
Number 3. Copper Creek
 CCSS-V2N3 LP/cassette
 Historic concert recordings
 by influential bluegrass per-
 formers Ralph (1927-) and
 Carter (1925-1966) Stanley,
 recorded in Morrisville, Vir-
 ginia on July 8, 1956. In-
 cludes songs and comic
 material. The Stanleys are
 accompanied by Curley
 Lambert on mandolin,
 Chubby Anthony on fiddle,
 and Lindy Clear on bass.
 Compiled from original tapes
 courtesy of Alice Gerrard.
 Includes jacket notes with
 biographical information and
 transcriptions of the songs.
 LCCN 86-751746



THE DRY BRANCH FIRE SQUAD



The Dry Branch Fire
Squad: Golgotha. Rounder
 0224 LP/cassette Bluegrass
 gospel from an Ohio-based
 group. Four selections are
 performed *a cappella* (without
 instruments) and the other
 eight with bluegrass in-
 strumentation. The songs
 come from a variety of
 sources from traditional to
 popular. The group is com-
 prised of Ron Thomason on
 mandolin, guitar, banjo, and
 vocals, Dave Edmundson on
 guitar, fiddle, mandolin, and
 vocals, Dick Erwin on bass
 and vocals, John Hisey on
 banjo and vocals, and Mary
 Jo Leet on guitar and
 vocals. Includes jacket notes
 describing the sources of the
 songs. LCCN 87-750870

OTHER ETHNIC GROUPS

Accordions in the
Cutover. Field Recordings
of Ethnic Music From
Lake Superior's South
Shore. Wisconsin Folklife
 Center, no catalog number
 Two-LP set. Field recordings
 made mostly in 1980-81 in
 Wisconsin and the Upper
 Peninsula of Michigan.
 Produced with funding from
 the National Endowment for
 the Arts, the recordings were
 made by James P. Learv
 and the students and staff of
 Northland College. Songs
 and dances of various
 European-American im-
 migrant groups. The groups
 represented are Czechos-
 lovakian, Polish, Yugoslav,
 Norwegian, Swedish, and
 Finnish. Includes jacket
 notes, map, and a 36-page
 booklet with biographies of
 performers, lyrics, transla-
 tions of songs, maps, photos,
 historical, cultural, and eth-
 nomusicological commen-
 tary, and bibliographic and
 discographic references.
 LCCN 87-743056

Accordions in the Cutover



Mariam Nirenberg:

Folksongs in the East European Jewish Tradition. Global Village Music 117 LP/cassette Recordings from the repertoire of Polish-born Mariam Nirenberg. Nirenberg has gathered songs from various sources over the course of her career and performs them in the traditional style without accompaniment. The songs are in Yiddish, Ukrainian, Polish, and Russian. Includes concert recordings made in New York City and field recordings made in her home, Toronto, Ontario. The recordings were made between 1946 and 1983 with the earliest ones taken from 78-rpm discs. Selections are from the Max and Frieda Weinstein Archive of sound recordings at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. This collection was prepared by Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett with assistance from Mark Slobin and Eleanor Gordon Mlotek. Includes a 20-page booklet with essays, photographs, transcriptions of tunes and texts, English translations, and annotations. LCCN 87-743047

ILLUSTRATION BY THE 1981 EUROPEAN JEWISH TRADITION



Chesta e la Voci ca Canuscite—This is the Voice You Know: Southern Italian Mountain Music from Calabria, Campania, Basilicata and Abruzzi. Global Village Music GVM #675 LP/cassette Recordings of social and ceremonial music of Italian-Americans in the Buffalo area of New York and Southern Ontario. The Southern Italian music is characterized by the bagpipe, the *organetto* (button-accordion), and a high-pitched throaty vocal style. Also prominent in many of the songs is the use of the *friction drum* as accompaniment. The work was sponsored by the Italian Folk Arts Federation of America, the Institute for Italian-American Studies, the National Italian American Foundation, and the Western New York Society for the Preservation of Italian Folklore. It was recorded and produced by Anna L. Charetakis, Domenico Carbone, Marguerite Collesano, and Philip Riggio with assistance from Nora Mighaccio. A 20-page booklet contains an essay, song notes, photographs, text transcriptions, and English translations of many lyrics. LCCN 87-743048

La Baronessa di Carini: Sicilian Traditional Songs and Music. Global Village Music GVM 676/677 Two-LP set/Two-cassette set Social and ceremonial music of Sicilian-Americans recorded in northwestern New York and Southern Ontario as part of a survey of Italian folk arts (for further description see notes for **Chesta e la Voci ca Canuscite**). Featured are the Sicilian styles of song known as *canzona* and *artigiano*, which were important as work songs, for social gatherings, and in courtship in small Sicilian villages. For many of these immigrants the difference in life styles in the United States has all but made these rituals disappear, especially among the young. Includes jacket notes and a 28-page booklet with essays, photographs, song notes, Sicilian text transcriptions, and English translations. LCCN 87-743049



POW WOW SONGS



Powwow Songs: Music of the Plains Indians. New World NW 343 LP

Ceremonial and social music of Native Americans of the Great Plains. Side one consists of intertribal singing of the Southern Plains Indians, and side two is from the Northern Plains. Much of the LP was recorded in August, 1975 at the sixth annual Kihekah Steh Powwow in Skiatook, Oklahoma. The LP reproduces the ceremonies and dances that take place during a "powwow" or general gathering. Includes dance contest songs, war dance songs, and grass dance songs. Recorded by Charlotte Heth and Michael Moore. Jacket notes by Heth include descriptions of the songs and a selected bibliography and discography. LCCN 86-743039



Nathan Abshire: A Cajun Legend: the Best of Nathan Abshire. Swallow 6061 LP/cassette Louisiana "Cajun" accordionist and vocalist Nathan Abshire (1915-1981), a major figure in the music of French Louisiana during his lifetime, is showcased in this collection. Features what has now become a Louisiana standard, the song "Pine Grove Blues." Consists of original songs, waltzes, and two-steps, with Abshire accompanied by the Ballo Brothers on many selections. Comes with a 4-page pamphlet compiled by Barry Jean Ancelet with complete French lyrics and English translations. LCCN 87-743053

Flaco Jimenez: Ay te Dejo en San Antonio.

Arhoolie 3021 LP *Musica norteña*. Mexican-American conjunto music performed by Leonardo "Flaco" Jimenez (1939-) Consists of polkas and *rancheras* performed on accordion, with Toby Torres on *bajo sexto* (a type of twelve-string guitar), Henry "Big Red" Ojeda on bass, and Isaac Garcia on drums. The Jimenez family has been active in Tex-Mex border music for generations. Jacket notes by Chris Strachwitz. LCCN 87-743039





**Augie Meyers Presents
San Antonio Saturday
Night.** Sonet SN1F-933
LP Four Mexican-American
conjuntos (bands) from San
Antonio, Texas. San Anto-
nio has almost become syn-
onymous with this style of
dance music. The LP shows
the great variety of styles
utilized by working Tex-Mex
dance bands. Selections
range from the 1950s style
accordion-based music of
Leonardo "Flaco" Jimenez
and the 1980s style piano
and synthesizer-based music
of Los Formales. Also in-
cluded are Los Paisanos and
Los Hermanos Barron. Jack-
et notes by Samuel Charters
describe the nature of the
people and the music.
LCCN 87-750955

ANTHOLOGIES WITH A REGIONAL FOCUS

**... You Know That
Wyoming Will Be Your
New Home: Songs and Sto-
ries of Wyoming Settle-
ment.** Wyoming Council on
the Arts, no catalog number
Second edition. Four-cassette
set. A series of 8 half-hour
cassette programs, in radio
show format, of the music,
songs, and stories of Wyom-
ing settlement. Topics
include storytelling, cowboy
songs, the Basques in Wyom-
ing, Hispanics, Russian-
Germans, Eastern-Europeans,
and an old-time fiddle con-
test. One of the programs is
a synthesis of the others.
Narrated by Larry Peterson.
Directed by Dennis Coelho.
Produced by Deborah Jane
Lamberton. Includes a brief
booklet describing each pro-
gram with suggestions for
additional readings, photos.
LCCN 87-743057



Publishers of Listed Recordings

Arhoolie Records
10341 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Augusta Heritage Records
Davis and Elkins College
Elkins, WV 26241

Columbia Historic Editions
CBS Records
34 Music Square East
Nashville, TN 37203

Copper Creek Records
2623 Cedarhurst Avenue NW
Roanoke, VA 24012

County Records
Box 191
Floyd, VA 24091

Folkvric Records
10341 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Folkways Records
632 Broadway
New York, NY 10012

Global Village Music
Box 2051
Cathedral Station
New York, NY 10025

Modern Blues Recordings
P.O. Box 248
Pearl River, NY 10965

New World Records
701 Seventh Avenue
New York, NY 10036

Old Homestead Records
Box 100
Brighton, MI 48116

RCA Records
1133 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036

Rounder Records
1 Camp Street
Cambridge, MA 02140

Smithsonian Collection of
Recordings
Box 10230
Des Moines, IA 50336

Sonet Records
121 Ledbury Road
London, W11, 2AQ
ENGLAND

Spirit Feel Records
c/o Shanachie Records
Dalebrook Park
Hoboken, NJ 07423

Swallow Records
Drawer 10
Ville Platte, LA 70586-0010

Tennessee Folklore Society
Middle Tennessee State
University
Box 201
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Wisconsin Folklife Center
Route 3
Dodgeville, WI 53533

Wyoming Council on the Arts
2320 Capitol Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Yazoo Records
245 Waverly Place
New York, NY 10014

For further listings and reviews of folk records, consult publications such as *American Music*, *Bluegrass Unlimited*, *Blues Unlimited*, *County Sales Newsletter*, *Disc Collector*, *Ethnomusicology*, *Frets*, *JEMF Quarterly*, *Journal of American Folklore*, *Living Blues*, *Old-Time Music*, *Record Roundup*, *Sing Out!*, *Western Folklore*, and *Rocking-chair* (a supplement of the *Voice of Youth Advocate*). *Ethnomusicology*, the journal of the Society for Ethnomusicology publishes

a "Current Discography" feature in each issue. In addition, the free guide *Folklife and Ethnomusicology Serial Publications in North America* is available from the Archive of Folk Culture, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

For a more complete guide to folk record labels and direct mail-order sources, write for the free reference aid *Recording Companies in North America Specializing in Folk Music, Folklore and Ethnomusicology (LCFARA 3)* prepared by the Archive of Folk Culture.

Folklife Sourcebook, a directory of folklife resources in the United States and Canada, can be obtained by sending \$10.00 to the Folklife Sourcebook, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

Mail-Order Sources for Folk Recordings

Alkazar Records
Box 429
Waterbury, VT 05676
(802) 244-8657

Andy's Front Hall
Wormer Road
P O Box 307
Vorheesville, NY 12186
(518) 765-4193

County Sales
Box 191
Floyd, VA
(703) 745-2001

Down Home Music
10341 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530
(415) 525-1494

Elderly Records
1100 North Washington
Box 14210
Lansing, MI 48901
(517) 372-7890, 372-1161

Global Village Music
Box 2051
Cathedral Station
New York, NY 10025
(212) 749-2284

In the Tradition
P O Box 223
Deer Isle, ME 04627
(207) 348-6884

Original Music
R D 1, Box 190
Lasher Road
Tivoli, NY 12583
(914) 756-2767

Rooster Blues
2615 North Wilton Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614
(312) 281-3385

Roundup Records
Box 154
Cambridge, MA 02140
(617) 354-0700

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